

Listing of the Claims:

The following is a listing of all claims within the national stage application, and the Applicants respectfully request amendment of the claims as shown:

1. (Original) A conveying system, comprising an endless first conveyor belt circulating between at least first and second divert elements, a top run of the first conveyor belt forming a first conveying surface movable between the divert elements in a first conveying direction, and an endless second conveyor belt circulating between third and fourth divert elements, a top run of the second conveyor belt forming a second conveying surface movable between the divert elements in a second conveying direction, the top run of the second conveyor belt extending at least partly above and along the second divert element, so that the first and second conveyor belts, while including a gap-shaped interspace, are in mutually transverse alignment, characterized in that in the interspace at least one intermediate element is arranged which bridges the gap between the first and the second conveying surface.

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5 2. (Original) A conveying system according to claim 1, wherein in the interspace a plurality of intermediate elements are arranged, and wherein back parts of the intermediate elements, at the entry of the gap between the first conveying surface and the second conveying surface, form a grid-shaped part of a slide-over surface between the first and the second conveying surface.

3. (Original) A conveying system according to claim 2, wherein the intermediate elements are designed as mutually spaced apart fingers extending in the first conveying direction.

4. (Original) A conveying system according to claim 3, wherein the fingers cooperate with grooves in the surface of the first conveyor belt, extending in the first conveying direction.

5. (Amended) A conveying system according to claim 1~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the grid-shaped part of the slide-over surface extends from the second conveying surface into the first conveying surface.

6. (Amended) A conveying system according to claim 1~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the longitudinal edge of the second conveyor belt that faces the first conveyor belt is provided with a bevel.

7. (Original) A conveying system according to claim 6, wherein the at least one intermediate element is provided with a further back part which is located lower with respect to the slide-over surface formed by the first back part and which is formed to correspond to the bevel.

8. (Amended) A conveying system according to claim 1~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the at least one intermediate element reaches under the top run of the second conveyor belt.

9. (Amended) A conveying system according to claim 1~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the at least one intermediate element supports the top run of the second conveyor belt.

10. (Amended) A conveying system according to claim 2~~any one of the preceding claims 2-9~~, wherein the intermediate elements each comprise a plate-shaped supporting part of substantially upright orientation.

11. (Amended) A conveying system according to claim 2~~any one of the~~

~~preceding claims 2-10~~, wherein the intermediate elements are groupwise connected with a central carrier.

12. (Amended) A conveying system according to ~~claim 2~~^{any one of the} preceding claims 2-10, wherein the intermediate elements are provided with a breaking point.

13. (Amended) A conveying system according to ~~claim 2~~^{any one of the} preceding claims 2-11, wherein the intermediate elements are arranged such that they are slidable transversely to the conveying direction of the first conveyor belt.

14. (Amended) A conveying system according to ~~claim 1~~^{any one of the} preceding claims, wherein the first and/or the second conveyor belt is/are built up from one or more rows of successive modules in the conveying direction of the conveyor belt, which modules are pivotally coupled with the aid of hinge pins extending transversely to the conveying direction of the conveyor belt.

5 15. (Original) A slide-over device, comprising a central carrier with a number of mutually spaced-apart, substantially parallel extending fingers, back parts of the fingers forming a grid-shaped part of a slide-over surface, characterized in that the slide-over device is provided with an endless conveyor belt circulating between at least two divert elements, a top run of the endless conveyor belt forming a conveying surface movable between the divert elements in a conveying direction, which conveying surface is in substantially flat alignment with the slide-over surface.

16. (Original) A slide-over device according to claim 13, wherein the fingers extend substantially transversely to the conveying direction of the conveyor belt.

17. (Amended) A slide-over device according to claim ~~13 or 12~~, wherein
the fingers support the top run of the second conveyor belt.

18. (Amended) An intermediate element for a conveying system or slide-over device according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, comprising at least a bar or plate-shaped element having a first back part which during use forms a slide-over surface and a further back part which is staggered with respect to the first back part and which during use is located lower with respect to the slide-over surface and
5 which is formed to correspond to the longitudinal edge of a conveying mat.